



Docket No.: JELU-0003

PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Confirmation No.: 1729

Jonah ERLEBACHER and Yi DING

Group Art Unit: 1745

Serial No.: 10/647,436

Examiner: Echelmeyer, Alix Elizabeth

Filed: 8/26/2003

Customer No.: 34610

For: METHOD OF PLATING METAL LEAFS AND METAL MEMBRANES

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In reply to the Restriction Requirement of April 17, 2006 wherein restriction has been required, Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, Group I, claims 1-40. With respect to Item 3, Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, the species that is identified as corresponding to a nanoporous metal membrane (identified in the Restriction Requirement as corresponding to claims 1-15) for prosecution in the above-identified application.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of each of the designated inventions is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of each of the designated inventions would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining designated inventions. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it states that "if the

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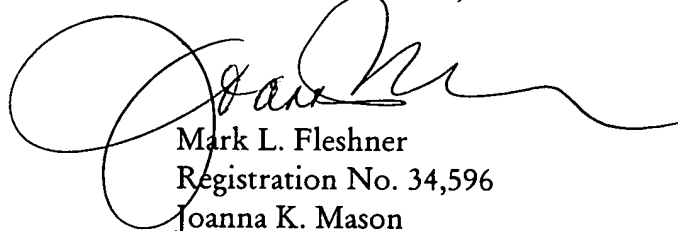
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search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions." It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned agent, Joanna K. Mason, at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
FLESHNER & KIM, LLP



Mark L. Fleshner
Registration No. 34,596
Joanna K. Mason
Registration No. 56,408

P.O. Box 221200
Chantilly, VA 20153-1200
(703) 766-3701 MLF/JKM:jld
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